

# **THIS POINT**.... in time

*NEWSLETTER*

**The Point Richmond History Association**  
*Since 1979*

[www.PointRichmondHistory.org](http://www.PointRichmondHistory.org)

**Vol. XXXV No. 5**

**April/May, 2017**

**\$3.00**



***Springtime Flowering Trees  
on Tunnel Avenue***

*You are Invited to The Point Richmond History  
Association's Annual General Meeting  
May 21, 2017 at 2:00 pm  
Point Richmond Community Center  
139 Washington Avenue*

*After a short meeting to nominate and elect officers  
you will be treated to a presentation by*

**Karen Buchanan**

# **History of Downtown Point Richmond**

**Refreshments will be served**

# From the President

By Mid Dornan

POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ends their calendar year in May when we hold our annual meeting, which is on the third Sunday in May, May 21st, 2017, at the Point Community Center on Washington Avenue. It starts at 2pm and will end at 4. Come meet our volunteer Board of Directors, volunteer docents, hear how the Kiosk is processing through the many phrases to completion, and help elect officers for 2017-2018.

Bring your photos, memories; express what you like or would like to see in our Newsletter. BRING A FRIEND.

*Below is PRHA photo archive #1054 from Royce Ong, Downtown Richmond in its heyday. This night time shot is MacDonald Avenue at 16th Street. Who can date this for me? Gary*

## Contents of this Issue

From the President	1
Members	2
Editor's Notes	3
A-Mid Trivia	4
Church News	6
Westside Womens Improvement Club	10
Early WWIC Minutes	12
The Poop on Point Richmond	14
Paar Terminal Essay	17
Sweetheart Lara Choe	19
Photos from Karla and Klaudia Kobelt	20
Cards and Letters	20
Items of Interest, Early 1900's	22
Birthdays	25
Memorials	26
90's Club	27
Calendar/Directory	28



Thank you members for your renewal:

**Burl Willes\*\***  
**Gloria Crim\***  
**Floria Jones\***  
**Chuck Dutrow\***  
**Robert Armstrong\***  
**John & Nellie Larsen\***  
**Les Crim\*\***  
**Doug & Rosemary Corbin\*\***  
**Darlene Wright**  
**Ken Blonski & Louise Fender**  
**Family**  
**Bill & Arduina Smith Family**  
**Karen Buchanan\*\***  
**Richard & Roberta Palfini\*\***  
**Dee Rosier**  
**Patricia Dornan\*\***  
**Sonnie & Wilson Gandola Family**  
**Sandi Gensler-Maack & Lynn**  
**Maack\*\***  
**Susan Reynolds Prine**  
**Dixie Mello**  
**Thomas R. Williams**  
**Mare Bisio**  
**Frank & Kristine Lazard Family**  
**Julius Matteucci\***  
**Charlene Smith**  
**Mid Dornan**  
**Mike Cooper**  
**Tom & Shirley Butt\*\***  
**Michael Lambton**  
**LaVerne Rentfro Woolman**

Welcome to new member:

**Ken Reed\***  
**Jim Reed\***  
**Andrew & Kim Butt Family\***  
**Daniel & Sara Butt Family\***  
**Mark J. Kornmann**

\*Gift Membership

\*\*Special Supporter, *Thank You!*

*Thank You! To*  
**Santa Fe Market**

*For distributing*  
**“THIS POINT.....in time”**

*Support our local retailers*

*Visit our little museum and view our*  
*1000 picture slide show of historic*

*Point Richmond photos.*

*Open Thursdays and Saturdays*

*And the first and second Tuesday*  
*of each month*

*11:30 am - 2:00 pm*

Thanks to the Volunteers who open and close our museum two days each week

Mid Dornan  
Pat Pearson  
Heinz Lankford  
Gary Shows  
Lori Kauth  
Caitlin Harvey  
Virginia Mooney  
Bonnie Jo Cullison  
Jean Rose

*The Cover:*  
*Beautiful springtime flowering*  
*trees on Tunnel Avenue*

# Editor's Notes

Gary Shows

[garyshows@gmail.com](mailto:garyshows@gmail.com)

Here is April/May issue. It is hard to believe, but by my quick count, my 187th issue! The first issue that I edited was Winter of 1987/88, Vol. VI. I agreed to produce ONE issue because the then editor was ill. Occasionally a burden but I mostly enjoy the job; time flies when you are having fun!

Thanks to all my contributors I think this is a good one. I invite everyone to participate, if you would like to see something in TPIT please do not hesitate to send it to me.

Thanks to Kate Harps for preparing a PDF CD containing "Picnic in the Point Park Cook Book", published in 1968 by Donna Roselius and Eunie Morin. The cookbook is from Sandra Beyaert's collection. It is a fun read and you now can enjoy it on our website, [www.pointrichmondhistory.org](http://www.pointrichmondhistory.org).

Enjoy our springtime, my favorite time of the year, and see you at the May meeting.

The deadline for items to be published in the Summer issue of TPIT is Friday, May 26, 2017.

Thanks to those who helped fold, staple and address the last issue:

Caitlin Harvey  
Mid Dornan  
Kathe Kiehn  
Gary Shows  
Jerry Cerkanowicz  
Bonnie Jo Cullison  
Pat Pearson  
Heinz Lankford  
Pam Wilson



## Thank You! Our Special Supporters!

### History Makers

Donna Wilson  
Doug & Rosemary Corbin  
Kathe Kiehn  
John A. Thiella & Rosa T. Casazza  
Roberta & Richard Palfini  
Patricia Dornan  
Les Crim  
Norm and Jean Reynolds  
Fernando & Becky Garcia  
David Janes  
The Bartram-Owens Family  
Burl Willes  
Garry & Maryn Hurlbut  
Jeanne Pritchard  
Joe Pritchard  
Bob Armstrong  
Alicia Kae Miller  
Abigail Bok & David Gottlieb

### History Preservers

Royce Ong  
Kevin, Renee & Griffin Knee  
Sandi Genser-Maack & Lynn Maack  
Margaret Morkowski  
Maurice & Margaret Doherty  
Zoe Egger  
Linda Newton  
Tom & Shirley Butt  
The Dolberg Family  
Bernie McIntosh  
Don & Ingrid Lindemann  
Roberta & Tim Montgomery  
Mary Crosby & Tom Piazza  
Karen Buchanan  
Norma Wallace  
Don & Carole Woodrow  
Richmond Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Linda Andrew-Marshall  
Gloria & Mark Maltagliati  
Anne Brussok-Roth  
Ken Blonski & Louise Fender  
Erica & Barry Goode  
James J. Cheshareck

# A-Mid Trivia

*TPIT  
Exclusive  
since 1984*

*Mid Dornan (510-234-5334) (middornan@gmail.com)*

## QUESTION

Who published the first mail-order catalog in the United States?

ANSWER at end of Trivia.

\*\*\*

Hugging is healthy. It reduces stress and cures depression.

\*\*\*

Climbing stairs rather than taking elevators can increase your brain's gray matter.

\*\*\*

No wonder ants seem to be everywhere. For every human on earth, there are roughly 1.6 Million ants!

\*\*\*

Medical progress has made cataract surgery generally safe. When Gary Shows chose to have cataracts for both eyes, we hoped his eye surgery was as successful as he is, as his is the eyes of this newsletter.

\*\*\*

We welcome new resident Michael Campos-Quinn as a resident. He is Data and Assistant Manager at Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archives with expertise in archiving and catalog. Michael will work with Point Richmond History archives. If the museum is closed on a Saturday morning and you see someone at work inside, that will most likely be Michael.

\*\*\*

Do you procrastinate doing your income tax longer because you have extra days as the deadline is advanced two days to April 17th?

\*\*\*

George Peter Tingley Day is May 7th, 11:00 a.m. Methodist Church, this year will feature some of George's composition students.

\*\*\*

A neighborhood favorite is the Annual JUNKTIQUE on the first Saturday in May, the 6th, held at the Methodist Church, Martina Avenue at W. Richmond, Donations are now being accepted and tax deductible forms given. Drop off:

Tuesday 7 pm - 8:30 pm

Wednesday 10 am - 12 noon

Saturday: 10 am - Noon.

This is where bargains are real bargains. Stay for a homemade lunch.

DO NOT MISS - MAY 6TH.

\*\*\*

Amazon and Whole Foods now have large Warehouses in Richmond.

\*\*\*

Congratulations to Rebekah Rose Ayres and Laurence Tiezon their marriage, March 20th, 2017 at the Methodist Church.

\*\*\*

Penguin Random House has purchased Barack and Michelle Obama's separate memories for \$65 million - the highest advance on record.

\*\*\*

A man is recovering from surgery when the surgical Nurse appears and asks him how he is feeling. "I'm O.K. but I didn't like the four letter word he used in surgery," he answered. "What did he say"? asked the nurse. **Oops!**

\*\*\*

Karla and Klaudia, sisters from Pleasanton, visited our Museum to present us with a CD of 1915 - 1919 Point photos (see page 20). Former dancers they performed in musicals as "My Fair Lady", with entertainers as Ella Fitzgerald, Phyllis Diller, the Osmonds, also in the Far East, and after 32 years are teachers at the San Ramon Valley Dance Academy.

\*\*\*

Two and a half times more Barbies were sold last year than babies born.

\*\*\*

*per Bloomberg.com*; Recent lab tests found samples from store-brand aloe vera skin gel sold by Target, Walmart and CVS contained no traces of aloe vera, despite listing the plant ingredient as its No. 1 or 2 ingredient. The U.S. Food and Drug

Administration doesn't approve cosmetics...

\*\*\*

Roberta Dornan Palfini came early from Irvine, CA, to escort her Mom, Mid, to the Annual Sweetheart Dinner honoring Lara Choe then staying for the weekend where they enjoyed the movie Lion.

\*\*\*

Barbara Haley is visiting her only sister in Arizona to work on some special goals together. Barbara chairs the refreshments in Friendship Hall each Sunday after services at the Methodist Church.

\*\*\*

Fred Astaire was a wonderful dancer, but credit his partner Ginger Rogers, as she did everything he did "backwards and in high heels".

\*\*\*

The waves of the sea roll in on shore twenty-six to the minute in all kinds of weather.

\*\*\*

Dee Rosier met in Vallejo with her Crockett friends for lunch and to socialize.

\*\*\*

Per a tax guide, the average itemized deduction in 2014 was \$27,447.

\*\*\*

PRNC Treasurer, Garry Hurlbut ,returned from a trip to India in time for the February meeting.

\*\*\*

Does anyone have a photo or information of the Opera House In Point Richmond?

\*\*\*

The wisdom of Bill Gates is that the robot that displaces human workers should be taxed. And funds automated to Education and Senior Care.

\*\*\*

Sarah and Daniel Butt's baby daughter, Josephine, was welcomed by brother Ryland, and sister Gigi on February 4 , 2017.

\*\*\*

What if you don't get time for lunch, and begin to feel faint? You might fall down and hurt yourself. Better eat a candy bar now, just in case. Better if the bar is MOSTLY chocolate.

\*\*\*

Two baby goats survived their birth on February 26<sup>th</sup> on the Butt 'farm' as they join others to munch the rain fed grasses on the hill.

\*\*\*

Can you swallow when you are on your back?

\*\*\*

Les Hathaway came from Gault to honor fellow Fireman Harry Hardwick at his Memorial in Pinole.

\*\*\*

Thanks to Caitlin Harvey, we have a Sanford Map at our museum.

\*\*\*

HAPPY EASTER - put on your Easter Bonnet - Spring has arrived.

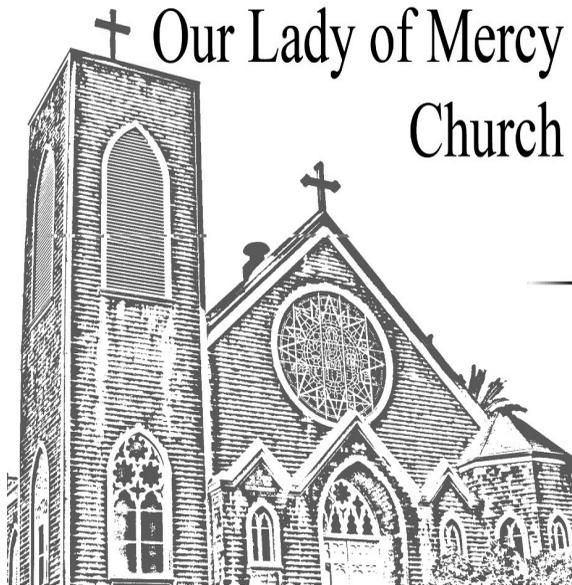
\*\*\*

ANSWER: In 1872 Montgomery Ward published the first mail order catalog. *(You may praise or blame all those catalogs that clog your mailbox today)*

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
**First United Methodist Church.**  
**201 Martina Street, Point Richmond**  
**8 a.m. garden service**  
**9 a.m. free community breakfast**  
**10 a.m. Sunday School**  
**11 a.m. Service with choir**  
**Easter egg hunt after services.**



# Church News



## Our Lady of Mercy Church

*By Dee Rosier*

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drosier@sbcglobal.net

The roll of time continues as we enter the semi-annual acceptance of time change – Daylight Savings Time. Even though we lose an hour’s sleep, the additional evening light is welcome. After being held in our homes during the rainy season, it is a welcome sight to view neighbors taking advantage of the change and gardening. The soft soil enables the removal of weeds less laborious.

A group from Our Lady of Mercy attended the World Day of the Sick Mass at the Cathedral. The Mass is supported by the Order of Malta. Members from our parish who participate here are Anne Brussok and The Lamberts. World Day of the Sick, initiated by Pope Saint John Paul II is held annually worldwide near the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes. Bishop Barber celebrated the Mass, which was extremely impressive. It was a special opportunity to pray for healing and hope.

Each attendee was individually given the Sacrament of anointing of the sick, blessing of caregivers and healthcare providers as well as distribution of holy water from Lourdes, France. As a member of the Order of Malta, Anne Brussok was a lector. A reception was held after the Mass. We visited the clinic and after mentioning Mike and Betty Ann Lambert’s name were given the royal treatment. Mike and Betty Ann are very active Order of Malta members.

The Bishop’s Vineyard commemorates the canonization of Santa Teresa de Calcutta with a limited edition magnum of locally grown award winning Cabernet Sauvignon. A portion of the income is contributed to an endowment fund created to provide additional tuition assistance to needy students wishing to attend a Catholic School.

Although the roses were pruned late due to the rain, the recent sunny days have enhanced an early burst of color. They no doubt will be in full bloom to welcome all on Easter Sunday.

It is the season of Lent and a time for fasting. Since St. Patrick’s Day fell on Friday, March 17, Bishop Barber issued a decree granting Catholics permission to enjoy their corned beef (and Guinness?). He encouraged them to engage in another sacrificial or charitable act that day. During Lent we call to mind the opportunity we have to help people both locally and at a distance.

Bible study is held in the parish hall every other Wednesday from 6:30-7:30. All are welcome to attend. If interested, please contact Anne Brussok (510-517-9905) Anne has also put in a lot of hours preparing the budget, certainly not a choice job. She has compiled all the statistics in order to present to the Diocese. We cannot extend enough thanks to Anne for the enumerable hours spent in compilation.

Father urges infants baptisms while their elders are still present to enjoy the ceremony. It is a great way to set roots.

The date for First Holy Communion will be sometime in May.

Ordinary upkeep and maintenance work is

on hold for a few months. Our income this year dropped a few percentage points over last year. Upkeep will continue as our income increases.

A group of parishioners has been meeting to form a St. Vincent de Paul chapter in our parish. Their main purpose is to provide assistance to the needy who generally call, an exclusive phone number will soon be provided. They recently sponsored a clothing drive. We thank the West Side Improvement Club for their recent donation to St. Vincent de Paul. We are off to a great start, and you will be hearing more about them. Those involved have also taken over the coffee/donuts duty on the first Sunday of each month. Brenda McKinley and I are officially retired.

Speaking of Brenda McKinley, she recently celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. She announced it as we walked into Mass, so she did not give us any forewarning to plan a celebration (which I am sure was her intent).

Brenda has been a long-standing, constant member and always available to lend a hand. She is a Eucharistic Minister and for years hosted coffee/donuts. She not only joins the other TPIT 90ers, but also becomes the matriarch of Our Lady of Mercy. As a special gift, a great-granddaughter was born on her birthday. A group of church ladies took her out for coffee.

Get well wishes continue for Jim Chezareck, Dean Smith, Dixie and Frank Mello, Veronica Arkin and Mike and Betty Lambert. It was a delight to see Mike and Betty attend Mass. When told it was good to see him, Mike responded that it was good to be seen. We offer him continued good health.

Condolences to the family of Jerry Gutierrez. Jerry was Valerie Frosini's husband and lived in Livermore.

Condolences are extended to the Mary Swerdfeger family. Mary moved to Pt. Richmond in 1942 and retired from Chevron in 1977 when she moved to Minden, Nevada.

Congratulations to Diane and Fred Siegmund who became grandparents to new grandson, Dean William, born to Sean and Katie Siegmund on January 5, 2017, brother to 14-month old Teddy. Fred and Diane are blessed with grandchild number 5.

We welcome new to the neighborhood: Isaaca Clare Lacheen, born January 20, 2017. Her parents

are Idaho Street neighbors Howard and June Lacheen. We look forward to her growth years on Idaho Street – a great street to raise a child.

What a great treat this morning to offer the hand of peace and see Sean Diaz home for a few days .

We also enjoyed a laugh this morning when Father announced that the Mass was ended and a youngster sitting in the front row clapped.

The last surviving Aunt and matriarch of our family, Lois Rodriguez died on March 9, 2017 at the age of 92. She died on the same day as her husband, Henry in 2012, also 92. The surviving cousins elevated a notch to become senior members of the family.

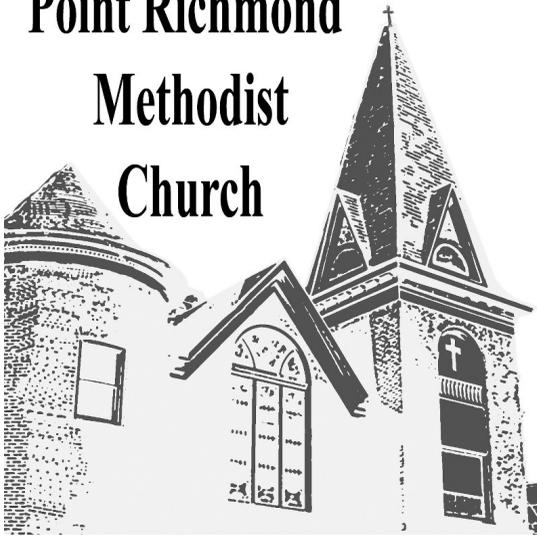
### SEE YOU IN CHURCH

WE COULD ALL LEARN A LOT FROM  
CRAYONS – SOME ARE SHARP, SOME  
ARE PRETTY, SOME ARE DULL, SOME  
HAVE WEIRD NAMES AND ARE ALL  
DIFFERENT COLORS....BUT THEY ALL  
EXIST VERY NICELY IN THE SAME BOX



*Dee Rosier*

# Point Richmond Methodist Church



**Jean Reynolds**  
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sweetheart05@mac.com

January 29, 2017 Jean Reynolds gave the Lay Leader's Report, a love song without tune or rhyme. The Lay Leader compiles an annual report to detail many of the church's projects, missions, and accomplishments. John Middleton, of Saffron Strand, joined Pastor Dan to play the prelude on trumpet. Members of Saffron Strand served lunch. Special guests that day included Mike Friedrich, newly minted deacon from Berkeley Methodist United, and Nikki and Kira Salde-Azzam, members of the CA-NV Philippine Solidarity Task Force.

Over Presidents' Weekend in February, Fran Smith, Jean Reynolds, and Pastor Dan Damon attended a conference in Portland sponsored by the Western Methodist Justice Movement: "Rise Up! Uniting to Act for a More Just World." Bishop Karen Oliveto, from the Mountain Sky Episcopal Area, preached the keynote message; Beth Zemsky taught an all-day workshop on intersectional organizing and offered practical tools to aid our work for justice. People gathered on Sunday in Action Network groups to plan ways to work for common goals. Pastor Dan played keyboard for some of the worship times and

assisted the ICON gospel choir, students from San Francisco State College, as they rehearsed and sang with and for the conference. While Pastor Dan was at the retreat, the Rev. Cornel Barnett of Point Richmond preached the sermon. He shared his passion for the oceans and our duty to protect them from pollution and damage caused by global climate change. Bill Thompson led the service, and Gill Stanfield sang the closing benediction.

Richmond First United Methodist Women attended "A Call to Prayer" supper and program at Easter Hill UMC on March 2, to mark the beginning of Lent. The women from Open Door UMC led the program, which focused on the health needs of women and children around the world. As one way to help, volunteers sew items for hygiene kits for teen girls. In three years of use, washable menstrual pad hygiene kits can increase a girl's ability to attend school by 180 days, giving her the same educational opportunity as a boy student. Agencies supported by the offering we collected will aid mothers and children through opportunities for healthcare, legal protections, and education. The Richmond First United Methodist Women are collecting items for health kits that will be sent by United Methodist Committee on Relief to communities of people experiencing some kind of crisis: flood, earthquake, hurricane or other tragedy.

We honored Lara Choe as "Sweetheart of the Year, 2017," on March 18, at a dinner in the banquet room of Hotel Mac. Robert Love missed the Sweetheart Dinner due to family illness, and Fran Smith stepped in as Emcee. She shared how Lara resisted receiving an award until she heard that it would benefit the church. Immediately, Lara's generous nature activated. Lara refused to sit idle while others planned the party meant to honor her. At the program, Lara's friend Pam Fisk described how Lara told everyone at her first Soroptomist Club meeting her life story, in contrast to most new members who sit quietly and listen the first few times. Doreen Leighton compared the Korean Tea Lara organized to ones the United Methodist Women hosted before: Lara recruited her Korean friends to prepare authentic recipes, she brought Korean dresses to costume the servers and actual Korean art for the décor, and she invited Korean drummers to complete the effect. According to Doreen, previous teas did not

adhere so consistently with their themes. Pastor Dan shared his respect for Lara's wisdom and faith. Russ and Kristi Johnson, 2016 Sweethearts, presented the heart scepter to Lara. Since the dinner sold out with a few dozen would-be-attendees excluded due to limited space, Lara hosted a private party at her home the next weekend for the crowd of people who were unable to attend the original event. Lara Choe truly embodies her title as "Sweetheart of the Year."

On March 19, George Peter Tingley played his own arrangement of "Winter" for the offertory. It was the last day of winter (although temperatures were mild and flowers bloomed in the garden) but we could enjoy George's "Winter" in any season.

On the Calendar:

Junktique Donations: Bring items to donate on these days in April: Wednesdays and Saturdays 10:00 AM to Noon, Thursdays 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. (Please, no clothing, shoes, hide-a-beds, sofas, metal frame recliners, particleboard furniture, exercise equipment, older TV's & CRT-type computer monitors, coffee cups, or plastic kitchenware.) For items too large to deliver, contact Jonathan, [jnscons@comcast.net](mailto:jnscons@comcast.net); or phone Bill 510-730-5274. Got muscles? Email Jonathan if you can help with pickups.

Kurt Ribak Quartet in Concert: Thursday, April 6, 8:00 pm. Join us to hear Kurt Ribak Quartet's shakedown gig for their upcoming fifth recording. The band: Myles Boisen on guitar and lap steel guitar, Greg Sankovich on keyboards, Lincoln Adler on sax, Russ Gold on drums, and Kurt on bass.

Dennis Johnson, Classical Musician: Saturday, April 8, 2:30 pm. Dennis Johnson's piano theme is *Rags to Riches*, and features pieces by Scarlatti, Haydn, Chopin, Brahms, Lamb and Franck. Suggested donation: \$15. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. All donations will be used by "Spirit In Action" to provide business grants to qualified individuals, families and communities in Malawi, Uganda, and Kenya. See more at [www.spiritinaction.org](http://www.spiritinaction.org)

Maria Muldaur in concert: "I'll Be Glad! Songs to Lift Your Spirit" Saturday, April 8,

8:00 pm. Best known for the hit "Midnight at the Oasis," Maria has recorded 40 solo albums spanning, blues, pop, folk, jazz and gospel, and has earned quite a few Grammy nominations. Purchase tickets for \$20 at the door, if available, or online <http://firstmethodistpointrichmond.eventbrite.com?s=74343704>

Good Friday Service: April 14, 7:30 pm. El Sobrante United Methodist Church, 670 Appian Way, El Sobrante. Enter church parking lot at 5151 Argyle Rd.

Easter: Sunday, April 16. Worship in the garden, 8:00 am; Free Easter breakfast for all, 9:00 am; Sunday School, 10 am; Worship in the sanctuary with the Joyful Noise Choir, 11 am; Easter egg hunt in the yard follows at about 12 noon.

Junktique Sale: Saturday, May 6, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Besides the large collection of books, household items, toys, furniture and more, you can buy soup, chili, hotdogs and pie by the slice. To help, contact Fran Smith [junosmith@aol.com](mailto:junosmith@aol.com)

Tingley Day: Sunday, May 7, 11 am. Musicians this year will include some of George Peter Tingley's talented piano students. George will play several of his own compositions.

Junktique 2: Monday, May 29, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM; Real Buttermilk Pancake Breakfast at 8:00 AM until 11:00 AM Shop our basement sale and Pancake Breakfast as you enjoy many yard sales at the Masquers' All Point Richmond Yard Sale. Let's all help Revive the Masquers' with funds to retrofit their red-tagged theater. Ten percent of our merchandise sales will go directly to the Masquers.

Visit the church website for additions and updates: [pointrichmondmethodist.org](http://pointrichmondmethodist.org)



# WWIC Est. 1908

## *News from the Womens Westside Improvement Club by Margaret Jordan*

The February meeting of the WWIC took place in a lovely Valentine setting provided by Diane Hirano. After several years of providing the beautiful decorations for our meetings, Diane has asked that this activity be shared by the members. We gave our thanks to Diane for the beauty and warmth she has created for us and look forward to sharing this activity in meetings to come.

President Linda Newton opened the meeting with a welcome as well as special thanks to Head Hostess, Diane Hirano, and Kathe Kiehn who provided delicious desserts. We acknowledged Anne Brussok-Roth, Peggy Thow, and Gail Eierweiss who all celebrated their birthdays in February. We were very happy to welcome as a new member Lara Choe, owner of the Hotel Mac restaurant. We thank Lara for her willingness to use the restaurant to support the Richmond community.

After we enjoyed chatting and eating our bag lunches, Karen Buchanan introduced Amy Day, a naturopath with a practice in Berkeley. Amy described naturopathy as a blend between Western medicine and natural health practices. She emphasized the central role of self-care in good health and described her practice as helping her patients to achieve optimal health. She emphasized the importance of “connectedness” for good health as well as contributing to a healthy community. We looked around the room and appreciated the connections the WWIC has created over the last 110 years!

During the business we voted to change the procedures by which we elect our officers. We will be electing 3 (of 6) officers each year for two-year terms, which allows for overlap between old and new officers. Kathe Kiehn and Peggy Thow generously volunteered to be this year’s nominating committee and we look forward to electing new officers in April. As part of this discussion Linda suggested that we create a Procedure Manual to help future officers and members.

During Committee Reports Norma

Wallace announced that the WWIC had received \$500 from the Point Richmond Gateway Foundation to develop a Welcome Basket for new neighbors as they move to Point Richmond. Norma thanked Welcome Committee Members, Diane Diani and Diane Marie and asked for volunteers to approach businesses to donate items to the welcome basket which is being called “This is the Point”. Diane Diani announced that she and her committee (Leslie Hicks, Diane Hirano, Marion Kent, and Diane Marie) are organizing the Bunco fundraiser to be held at our May meeting.

During announcements we got a little bit of Point Richmond History. Alyce Williamson told us that she has lived in Point Richmond since 1947—going on 51 years!! She has lived in the house her husband built in 1950 and has been a member of the WWIC since 1970 (I found Alyce’s write-ups for [This Point in Time](#) written in the 2004). One thing we love most about the Club is our age diversity. Patricia Gangwer thanked Karen Buchanan for including a slide of her uncle Unji Sonada’s leather goods repair and shoe shop in a recent history talk. She appreciated that Karen included some of Richmond’s Japanese History in the talk. Speaking of history, Pat Pearson announced that the new film series on the Red Oak would begin soon and gave us the happy news that the monthly pancake breakfasts will begin on April 9. Mid thanked members for giving her transportation to the meetings—thanking us for doing something we love to do! We adjourned until March 7.

At the March meeting we entered the hall to see the tables beautifully decorated with a St. Patrick’s Day theme, including leprechauns! The desserts were really special and included a tasty Irish Teacake with raspberries made by Diane Diani as well as Pat Pearson’s remarkable cupcakes made with chocolate and Guinness Stout (!) topped with a most delicious cream cheese frosting and orange and green gumdrops!

After we enjoyed our bag lunches and

conversation Linda opened the meeting with thanks to hostesses Pat Pearson, Diane Diani, and Doris Mitchell, and again to Diane Hirano who set up and decorated the tables. She also acknowledged Marion Kent for filling in for both 2nd Vice President, Cathy O'Brien who was traveling and for Treasurer Deborah Haley. We celebrated March birthdays -- Deborah Haley, Betty Ann Barnett, and Kathy Kiehn. Marion Kent gave a treasurer's report and mentioned that she still has 6 copies of the WWIC Cookbook for sale.

The main item on our agenda was the distribution of funds for our annual Charitable Giving, a longtime tradition of the WWIC. In past years we have donated money to many worthy organizations including Meals on Wheels, Helping Hands at Washington School, Friends of the Library--Westside Branch and funds for the Methodist Church to buy new coffee carafes. This year we had \$600 to give to community organizations that are

contributing to the welfare of the community. We had so many worthy organizations to consider that we voted to increase the funds to \$750 by taking \$150 from our Sunshine Fund. After a discussion we decided to give \$150 to the following organizations: The Masquers to help pay for a fundraiser position, the First United Methodist Church for new windows in the kitchen, the Washington School Edible Education project and Saffron Strand, a Point Richmond based program that works to help homeless individuals get back to work, The \$150 from the Sunshine Fund went to help the new St. Vincent de Paul chapter at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church in Point Richmond to install a telephone line. This last program, which is barely established, has already provided services to two households in Point Richmond and the Iron Triangle that were in great need. We adjourned until our first Spring Meeting!



*Leprechaun with Alyce Williamson in the background*



*Valentine's Treats*



## Early Minutes of the Women's Westside Improvement Club

*It's amazing what's in the WWIC minutes! They date back to July 1908 when the Club started. The ladies met weekly. In the first six months they set projects in motion that we enjoy to this day: a statue a Washington and Park Place, a large drinking fountain, a park next to the Baptist Church, and the establishment of a reading room where the city hall had been in Mr. Crichett's place. Even the names are historical. These minutes are a priceless treasure of Point Richmond's history.*

*-Linda Newton, President*

Point Richmond, Sept. 22, 1908

The Woman's West Side Improvement Club of Richmond met at Curry's Hall.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. Nellie Adams. The roll call of officers resulted in all being present except Sec'y Mrs. Topping, treasurer Mrs. Lucas, finance com. Mrs. Garrard, Mrs. Lang, Mrs. Jones, executive com. Mrs. Winduer, Mrs. Arnol and Mrs. Niedecker.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The petition for membership of Mrs. A. M. Irwin was read and Mrs. Marston, Mrs. Weise & Mrs. Grover were appointed on the investigation committee.

Communications from the Peoples's Water Co., B. Katchuicki and Mrs. Weise were read.

It was moved and carried that the Sec'y communicate with the Water Co. and explain our situation more fully.

The other communications were placed on file.

Bills were presented by Mrs. Topping and Mrs. Adams for prizes \$1.30, Mrs. Peard .70, Mrs. Lamore \$2.00.

Mrs. Curry reported that the petition had been placed before the Board of Trustees to have them place sidewalks around the park near the

Baptist Church and put a water hydrant therein and to allow the Woman's West Side Improvement Club to improve the park and name it. Also that she had received the Catalogue of Fountains and price list. The subject of the fountains was laid over to allow Mrs. Curry to write the firm for further particulars. Mrs. Peard reported that she had talked to Mr. Trull and that he could do nothing about stopping No. 8 train at Richmond Ave.

The section reading "non residents may visit the club at any time" was read for the third time. Moved and carried that the section be adopted and inserted in our bylaws.

The finance committee reported favorably on the bills and it was moved and carried that a warrant be drawn on the treasury on that amount.

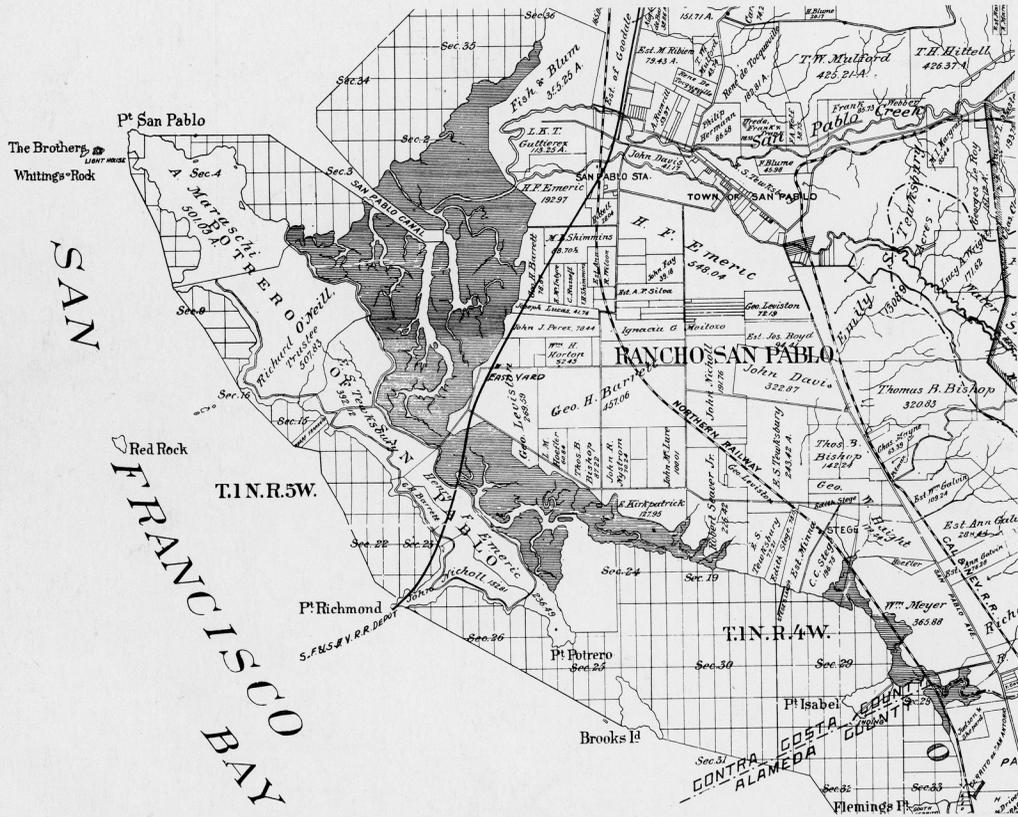
Mrs. Marston suggested that the Roll Call be answered by quotations. Moved and carried that Mrs. Peard be given a vote of thanks for the use of her hall for the Whist party.

There being no further business to come before the club the meeting was adjourned to meet Tues. Sept. 29, 1908.

Receipts 3.00

Ella Dimick, Sec'y Pro Tem.





An 1899 map showing the land settlement of March 3, 1894 (Richmond Museum).

***1899 map showing the land settlement of March 3, 1894  
(Richmond Museum)***

***Taken from "Richmond - Windows to the Past" by Susan D. Cole***



***I was going to wear my camouflage shirt today, but I  
couldn't find it.***

***Paraprospokians from Dave***

# The Poop on Point Richmond's Water Waste Treatment Plant

*By Michael Hibma, LSA Associates, Point Richmond*

*Edited by Caitlin Harvey*

From Chevron “burps” to the annual Herring Run, Point Richmond can claim a number of unusual smells. If you ride or walk along Canal Boulevard, going out to Point Potrero, you may have encountered one of these smells, although it is subtle these days and often overwhelmed by train diesel, industrial fumes, or even the sickly-sweet scent of mulch from the nursery nearby. Whether you smell it or not, our Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) is an important part of Richmond's more recent history and a hardworking facility that keeps our fair city... regular.

A town can only get so big before outhouses can't keep up. After Richmond incorporated in 1905, the community grew steadily through the early half of the twentieth century. By 1915, in response to industrial development and residential growth following the 1906 Earthquake and Fire, many East Bay cities extended their street grids, installed utilities, and opened more land for development. By the 1930s, Richmond's Inner Harbor facilities became the easiest route to dump untreated sewage and industrial wastewater to the Bay. By 1941, population growth and aggressive industrial development had made the East Bay shoreline and waters so “grossly polluted by sewage and industrial wastes,” that it ruined fisheries and generated public complaints of raw sewage smells.

By this time, many of the pre-1900 brick sewer lines in other cities around the nation had begun to deteriorate and governmental entities such as the United States Public Health Service began to study household sewage disposal methods and related environmental impacts. This resulted in a push to come up with a regional approach to addressing inadequate capacity and treatment of sewage in many areas and became part of nationwide mobilization efforts following

the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor in December 1941.

The sudden war-time industrialization and transformation of Richmond's Inner Harbor by the establishment of four Kaiser shipyards created numerous imposing challenges; one being disposal of exponentially more waste water from a 350% growth in population. Although many expected the wartime workforce to leave as defense jobs dried up during peacetime, these workers remained as industry in Richmond remained resilient post-war. The permanent post-war population growth in Richmond and other East Bay cities compelled development of a regional solution to increased pollution at a time when an aggressive nationwide program to address the backlog of inadequate sewage facilities was under way.

In 1947-1948, an engineering analysis described waste problems in Richmond, and other East Bay communities, and how the rapid war-time development that had overwhelmed Richmond's sewer system was being temporarily addressed by constructing satellite interceptor sewage lines that conveyed over 90% of Richmond's domestic and industrial waste into Richmond's Inner Harbor. Along with domestic sewage and grey water, industrial wastes discharged into the harbor included heavy metals, acids, fatty solids, greases, oils, waxes, insecticides, chemical cleaners, and other harmful substances. A new treatment facility was proposed to handle increased system loads anticipated from further population and industrial development, and to meet local and State government water quality standards. The recommended site for the new facility was the current WWTP facility at 601 Canal Boulevard. In 1952-1953, the San Francisco-based Clyde C. Kennedy Engineering firm prepared a set of

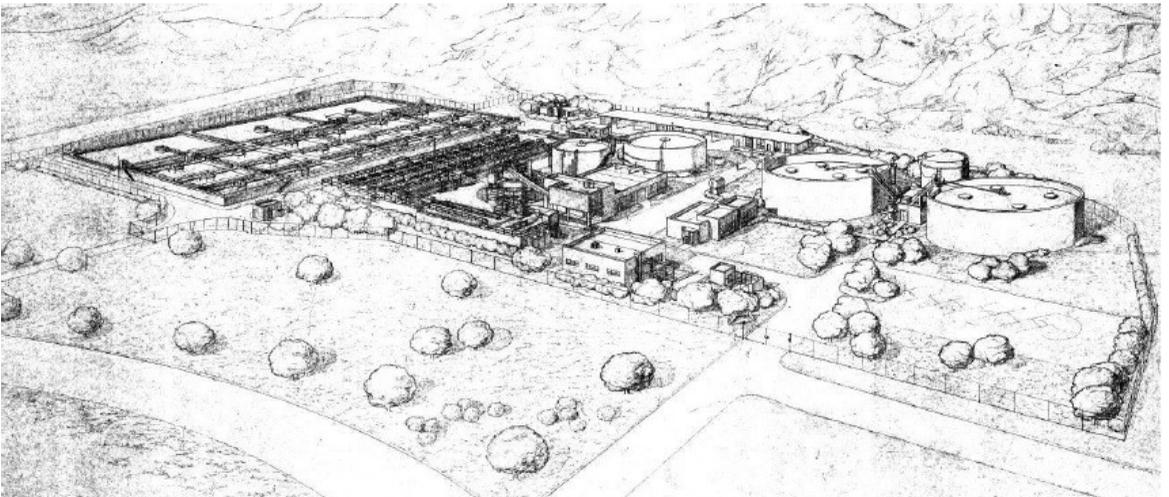
formal plans and drawings for a modern plant at the location.

To build the original WWTP and related infrastructure, Municipal Sewer District No. 1 was formed in September, 1956 and the following year authorized issuance of \$8,000,000 in bonds to finance construction of wastewater treatment facilities and related infrastructure within the District. The proposed plant would process sewage for 98,500 residents by removing “rags, grit, debris, and treat solids via an activated sludge process and discharge the filtered and disinfected effluent into the Richmond Inner Harbor.” This process involved incoming sewage entering a grit removal structure, which would screen and separate sands, soils, and other major solids. Sewage would then enter a pump building to be pumped to a primary sedimentation tank where an intake screen caught floating fats and greases and separated them via an aeration process. From there, settled sludge would then enter a primary digester which would use hot water – heated by burning gasses collected from digesting sludge - to stimulate further digestion. The “activated sludge” would then enter a Secondary Digester and Elutriation Tanks where sludge would be further processed by separation of particles based on size, shape and density, using gas or liquid acting against the sedimentation flow. Next the sludge would be

treated with chemical disinfectants (usually chlorine) and then vacuum filtered. Separated and disinfected liquids were discharged into the Richmond Inner Harbor, while the remaining solids or “sludge cake” was dried, stored, and sold as soil filler or fertilizer.

Richmond voters passed the first \$3,500,000 in construction bonds in 1957 to build the WWTP, and the facility came online a year later. The original Control Building/Office, Sludge Pump Building, Sludge Control, and Chlorination buildings were constructed of reinforced concrete with Roman Brick accents at the base of the exterior walls. Wall surfaces for the original buildings were, and remain, either stucco or painted concrete. Fenestration consists of aluminum-framed awning windows and glass block.

Kennedy Engineers designed a ‘Secondary Treatment Plant’ in 1968-1969 to implement updated sewage processing practices and meet regulatory water quality requirements. It added or modified 24 treatment elements of the WWTP, ranging from laboratory and office improvements, to new digestion, sedimentation, and aeration tanks, to a sludge-thickener unit. Amenities for workers (a changing room and lunch room) were also added, as well as a (presumably much-appreciated) steam cleaning facility. The Secondary Plant went online in 1969 and enabled



*WWTP 1967 concept drawing*

the City to centralize maintenance and operations of the entire sewer system on-site. The revised plant introduced much of the WWTP's current layout and built elements.

Since 1968-1969, the WWTP has been periodically modified, upgraded, and expanded, with major projects occurring in 1978, 1988, 2004, and 2009 to accommodate new wastewater treatment technology and meet changing wastewater treatment and odor standards. These expansions have added over a dozen new buildings and structures to the 18-acre site and resulted in the decommissioning of the Sludge Control building, the Pre-Treatment Grit Removal structure, the original Primary and Secondary Digesters, Elutriation Tanks, and the demolition of the Parshall Measuring Flume. Later additions to the original Office/Laboratory building have expanded the building's footprint to over twice the original size. The plant was upgraded to utilize anaerobic sludge digestion for primary treatment in 1961 and for secondary treatment in 1968. In 1980, a pipeline was added to bring effluent from the West County Wastewater District to the Confluence Structure for combined discharge through the new outfall bored under Nichol Ridge and out in San Francisco Bay. In 1982, a pipeline was constructed to transport digested sludge to the WCWD drying beds, which also brings landfill leachate to the Richmond plant. Subsequent projects have included a 1993 capacity expansion, conversion to hypochlorite and bisulfite, wet weather blending, and digestion improvements to meet state and regional water quality standards.

Next time you take Canal Boulevard out to Riggers Loft or East Brother Brewing Company, or hike along the Nichol Knob ridge and look down to the east, take note of the important processes happening in the tanks nestled unassumingly against the hillside. It's hard to deny that the WWTP takes a lot of (ahem) crap from all of us, but has done its job admirably since 1958.

Sources:

City of Richmond

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*Official Statement - \$2,650,000 Bonds - Richmond Municipal Sewer District No. 1. 1968.*

*Operation Manual - Volume I: Water Pollution Control Plant. Department of Public Works. 1994.*

*Municipal Sewer District Capital Improvement Program - Fact Sheet. Richmond Municipal Sewer District, Richmond, California. 1994*

Hyde, Charles Gilman, Harold Farnsworth Gray and A.M. Rawn. *East Bay Cities Sewage Disposal Survey - Report Upon the Collection, Treatment and Disposal of Sewage and Industrial Wastes of the East Bay Cities, California.* Board of Consulting Engineers. 1941.

Melosi, Martin V. *The Sanitary City: Environmental Services in Urban America from Colonial Times to the Present.* University of Pittsburg Press, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. 2008.

Kennedy, Clyde C.

*Report on Sewage Disposal for the City of Richmond and Stege Sanitary District.* Engineering Office of Clyde C. Kennedy, San Francisco, California. 1948.

*Sewage Disposal Facilities - Location Plans and Drawing Index.* Engineering Office of Clyde C. Kennedy, San Francisco, California. 1953.

Kennedy Engineers

*Operation Manual - Water Pollution Control Plant for the City of Richmond, California.* Kennedy Engineers, San Francisco, California. 1970.

# Paar Terminal Fifty Years of Industry on the Richmond Waterfront : Oral History Transcript

*Mid Dornan is submitting this series of oral interviews by Judith Dunning, Bancroft Library, University of California, here is her 1986 interview of John Paar Cox. We think it will be an interesting read for those who enjoy Richmond history.*

## 2nd Installment

Giving the city free title to the property was somebody's mistake. In those days people were building in a gung-ho spirit in everything.

Fred Parr Cox was involved with the Port of Oakland. Everything was done in the name of family, so everything was discussed at home. The Parr lease with Richmond was signed in 1926 so there were two leases.

It took about a year and a half before the Parr family left Oakland somewhere between 1931 and 1933.

Fred Parr again made a contract with the City Council of Richmond that he would bring a major industry to that area of the waterfront. He knew who he was going to get. He heard that the Ford Motor Company was going to put an assembly plant out here. Fred heard that there was going to be a convention of sales managers from all over the United States at the main offices of the Ford Motor Company.

So, Fred boned up a bit on the old models, and what new models might be coming out, and he went back a week ahead of time. He walked into the executive offices—he didn't ask to see anybody. They had a car out there on display, and he spent hours admiring this car, measuring it, and talking about it, particularly to

the secretarial staff. Fred Parr was a very pleasant chap and could remember names.

He got to know some of the other salesman and would introduce him to everyone. Everybody thought he was one of the big sales wheels so he said, "I've got to see Mr. Ford". "Yes, yes," and he walked right in. He had the architectural drawing. The upshot was that the Ford Motor Company built that beautiful assembly plant right behind what was finished Terminal No.3 in Richmond.

By getting an industry he assured that the '26 lease was, in all ramifications, going to be okay with the city. He did have to go to Sacramento to have the legislature agree that it was possible to lease municipal lands for periods of up to fifty years. Up to that time the maximum lease you could have with a city harbor property was ten years, anywhere in the state. In a night session it was agreed that cities and state agencies could extend leases to developers for fifty years.

Terminal 3 was a fine dock. In its day, it was the finest pier in the San Francisco Bay. Now all this time operating a very, very small dock, just abutting Terminal 3 was Terminal 2, the sugar dock designated to handle inland vessels only. C & H Sugar was located up at Crockett, and the Southern Pacific ran right by their door. The Southern Pacific and C&H got into a terrible wrangle about something, so C&H made a deal with Matson to haul sugar by water to Richmond. So Parr Terminal ran the sugar dock.

An interesting thing about Terminal No.3—the city owned the land under the north half of the terminal and it was our obligation to buy from private landowners the land behind tenth street on which the Ford Motor Company was located. We floated a bond and were able to buy the land.

There were many problems over titles, which became worse years later when World War II started.

(to be continued)





*Dear Friends, Patrons, and Loyal Supporters  
of Masquers Playhouse:*

The annual community-wide Memorial Day Garage Sale – a fundraiser for the Masquers Playhouse – will be held this year on, you guessed it, Memorial Day – Monday, May 29th. Information on how to sign up will appear on Nextdoor and in mailboxes next month. For those new to the event, the Masquers is your all-volunteer community theatre. We've been producing shows in the Point for 50+ years. The Memorial Day event is one of our most important fundraisers, with neighbors donating 10% of their own garage sale income to the theatre. This year's earnings will help offset our ongoing operational costs as we do the necessary planning and fundraising to get the theatre back up and running!

*Kathe Kiehn*

## **Washington School's Doctor Jim Davis Honored**

Dr. Jim Davis has been honored as an Outstanding Faculty Member at Mt. San Jacinto College. MSJC is located in the Hemet-San Jacinto area in Southern California. Dr. Davis received his bachelor's degree from St. Mary's College. After working as a civilian staff historian for the Strategic

Air Command of the Air Force, he joined the faculty of Mt. San Jacinto College. Dr. Davis is credited with many firsts having created first History Department at Menifee Valley Campus (MVC). He is a frequent lecturer, Teacher of the Year, has taught in England and traveled widely in Europe and Asia. Dr. Davis was awarded nine National Endowment for the Humanities grants that took him to University of Honolulu, Library of Congress and India for additional research.

Dr. Davis attended Washington School, was a member of BSA Troop 111 in the Point and is the son of Pat Pearson and Bob Davis. He hopes to move back to the Point.

*Mid*

**The History Association extends a warm welcome to new volunteer Michael Campos-Quinn to our team of history lovers.**

**Michael Campos-Quinn is a librarian at the Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive at UC Berkeley. He is helping the PRHA process some of its archival holdings. This should eventually help anyone interested in researching Point Richmond find the unique historical documents, photographs, letters, and many other items in our collection that help shed light on the history of our neighborhood. Michael lives with his wife, Jenny Heffernon, and their 10 month old baby, Ruby, less than three blocks from the museum.**

**Welcome and thank you Michael!**

# First United Methodist Church's Sweetheart of 2017

## *Sweetheart Lara Choe*

*Mid Dornan*

As a fund raiser for the past 19 years the Point Methodist Church has honored someone in the community as a Sweetheart. The event started as a way to pay for a 20-year-new-roof on the church. This year Lara Choe was chosen and honored as 90 of her friends came to honor her. Chocolate lovers ate the decadent, chocolate desserts that were to die for and later that night felt they might!

Lara has left for Casablanca to celebrate her 50th Anniversary from Jinmyuni High School in Korea!

*Restaurant Owner and Chef Extraordinaire,  
Hostess With the Mostest,  
Mentor to the Young and Young at Heart,  
Successful Businesswoman, Lovely Soprano,  
Justice-Seeker, Teacher of Many Cultures,  
Richmond Soroptimist,  
Treasured Friend & Loyal Member of the  
First United Methodist Church.*



*Sweetheart Lara Choe with her new honors*

### *Previous Sweethearts*

- 1998 *Bob Peckham*
- 1999 *Mid Dornan*
- 2000 *Tom McGowan*
- 2001 *First United Methodist Church*
- 2002 *Virginia Cherniak*
- 2003 *Fay Hawkins*
- 2004 *Francis Kinter Smith*
- 2005 *Jean Reynolds*
- 2006 *Alice, Bill, Liam & Sarah Thompson*
- 2007 *Helen Valentine*
- 2008 *Pastor Dan Damon*
- 2009 *Patricia Dornan*
- 2010 *David Vincent*
- 2011 *Robert Love*
- 2012 *Pat Nelson*
- 2013 *Linda Andrew-Marshall*
- 2014 *Tammara Plankers*
- 2015 *Kathe Kiehn & Heinz Lankford*
- 2016 *Russ & Kristi Johnson*
- 2017 *Lara Choe*

**Photographs given to the Point Richmond History Association  
by Karla and Klaudia Kobelt**

These pictures are selected from an album belonging to Amy Perkins (maiden name Freeman) when she lived in Point Richmond circa 1913-1916. Amy was about 15 years old when she and her family moved from Indiana to Point Richmond in 1913. She had four sisters, two of whom were twins, Ethel and Elsie. Ethel was Karla's and Klaudia's mother.



*Keller's Wharf, PRHA photo archive #1059 from Karla & Klaudia Kobelt*

## ***Cards, Letters & E-Mails***

Thank you, Gary.

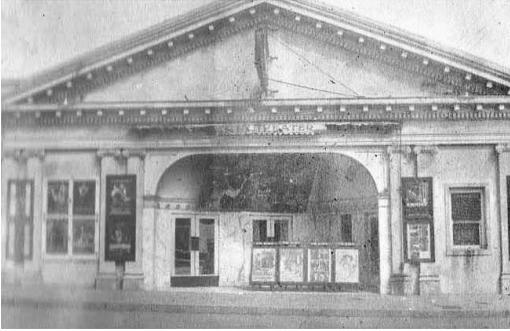
In my book you are a Living Treasure. I have read every single issue of THIS POINT that you edited. This publication makes your town unique and gives it a sense of community.

Your grateful fan,

Burl Willes

Berkeley

*Thank you Burl, Gary*



*Point Theater  
PRHA photo archive #1069  
from Karla & Klaudia Kobelt*



*Nicholl Avenue  
PRHA photo archive #1057  
from Karla & Klaudia Kobelt*



*Two Point Richmond Tunnels  
PRHA photo archive #1058  
from Karla & Klaudia Kobelt*



*Asphalt Pump House  
PRHA photo archive #1068  
from Karla & Klaudia Kobelt*



*Washington School  
PRHA photo archive #1055  
from Karla & Klaudia Kobelt*



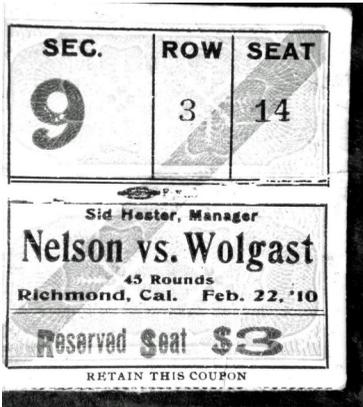
*Former Don Church Home  
PRHA photo archive #1060  
from Karla & Klaudia Kobelt*

*This is from a "fact diary", a book of headlines and interesting events in Early Point Richmond. It was compiled by Don Church from the "Richmond Independent", "Point Richmond News", "The Leader" and "Richmond Herald Record". It is one of many historical items left for us by Allan Smith.*

## Items of Interest Point Richmond, early 1900's

- 09-11-1912 San Jose Charlies Chop Suey joint on Railroad Ave. on the West Side was visited by 2 customers last night: Sgt. Chas Walker and Phil Barry. \$100 bail.
- 09-12-1912 John Nicholl will allow use of 100 X 200 yds section opposite the high school for track meets, etc.
- 09-14-1912 Tunnel to cost big sum. The bore, wharves and harbor cost will total 1/2 million dollars.
- 09-17-1912 Gold found in two places by Prof. Juhnke; at the head of Washington Avenue which assayed \$2.78 per ton and thru the gap between LAPB and the Santa Fe Ferry Point which assayed \$31.13 per ton.  
Geo. Sontag of Sontag and Evans fame (train bandits) takes job as bartender in John Kennys saloon. He had been giving lectures on the folly of a life of crime.
- 09-22-1912 Donald Church reports bass fishing good at the vicinity of Red Rock.
- 10-02-1912 Sick man prevents his brother from slaying his wife with a razor.
- 10-04-1912 Only 5 power poles will be allowed to the block in the Point and each must carry all lines; light, telephone and SP electric if it gets here.
- 10-09-1912 Nicholls well down 1053 feet. Find oil sands 4 feet thick. Surveyors are cutting up Nicholl tract for subdivision.
- 10-12-1912 Expect 100 firemen and friends at Point Firehouse for whist and musical entertainment tonight.  
S.B. O'Toole of Point broke his jaw when he fell from porch at American Hotel. He fell on the only brick in the yard.
- 10-15-1912 Geo. Knab buys saloon of Harshner and Gebney located on Washington Avenue near Park Place.
- 10-16-1912 Terms of the Abroa case; violation of probation will be 8 years in SQ, must report regularly, must remain away from saloons and cannot drink; seek the society of the girl without consent and pay Chief Arnold \$10 per month until \$50 is paid to be given to the lady who took care of child in illness. The girl is now 15 and he must pay \$10 until she is 21 The balance of the 8 years goes into the county treasure to pay for his trial.
- 10-17-1912 SF is trying to get law on the Nov. ballot to gather all Bay Area cities into her fold.
- 10-18-1912 Paving on West Side is under way at last.  
Good Vaudeville at Our Lady of Mercy.

*107 years ago*



*February 22, 1910*

This picture was taken from the roof of the Colombo Hotel which was owned by Ben Brignone. In spite of the fact that it had rained for several days and the area was flooded, more than 15,000 attended. Note the ticket offices on the right and the lines in front of them. The People's Water Company's buildings are seen over the top of the arena. In the right distance the homes of the Santa Fe employees and the old hotel run by the Lehmans can be seen. The Holmes Supply Store was located in one of the cottages. Wolgast won the fight in the 42nd round, it was stopped because Nelson was in bad shape. Find a video of the fight highlights on [PointRichmondHistory.org](http://PointRichmondHistory.org).

1917



*Frosini House, 100 years later  
411 Constr Costa Street in Point Richmond  
PRBHA photo #1001 , courtesy of the Richmond Museum of History*

2017



# Birthdays

## April

LOOF LIRPA	Paula Israeli	Melissa Allyn	Terry Downey
Kathy Dornan Barnes	Marjorie Roque Hill	Delio	Sharon Mertle
Billie Bonham Shaw	Pam Wilson	Alison Lord	Charline Barni
Erin Frame	Don Amantite	John Maxwell	Louis Stockdale
Roberta Dornan Palfini	Joel Peterson	Sherri Mertle	Joni Loux Emerson
Karilu Crain	Lori Meister	Carol MacDiarmid	Donna Diaz
Charlene Smith	Charlotte Knox	Rosemary Corbin	David Roth
Tara Kaufman	Monica Doherty	Gloria Smith	Sara Knight Butt
Ruth Wilson	Eric Hoiland	Robert J. Palfini	

## May

Douglas Corbin	Jon Doellstedt	Anne-Catherine Hadreas	Patrice Verhines
Patricia Beth Dornan	Sara Eeles	Roger Glafke	Mark Healy
Diana Corbin	Rena Gonsalves	Henry Marchitiello	Karen Brougham
Diana Spinola	Sandra Loux Fuller	Shoney Gustafson	Hilda Gozzi-Reed
Eva Marchitiello	Muriel Clausen	Winifred Boziki	Annabella Feese
Richard Matteucci	Sophia Dolberg	Norm Reynolds	Lorenzo Feese
Becky Horn	Julina Smith	Charles Palenchar	



## English Language Can Be Very Interesting

Spelling in the English language can be tricky, downright hilarious, or just plain confusing. Case in point: Why does the abbreviation 'Mrs.' have an 'R' when the full word 'missus' is R-less?

That's because Mrs. wasn't always the abbreviation for *missus*. Centuries ago, it stood for *mistress*, which at the time meant the woman of the household. A governess who looked after children was also called a mistress. Eventually, the abbreviation became the title for married women, while men used Mr., short for 'master'.

Since English speakers have a tendency to shorten words by means of contractions, the moniker was pronounced *missus* at the end of

the 18th century. It was probably for the best, since 'mistress' was given a new definition, the one we know today involving extramarital romantic affairs. Confusing the two could land you in seriously awkward trouble.

The grammar changed for the gents, too. The pronunciation of Mr. eventually went from *master* to *mister*, but the whole title was rarely written out. *Mister* was already a word that referred to an occupation or trade.

Long story short: The English language is confusing. At least some grammar rules don't require lessons; we just do them without even noticing.

# *Memorials.....*

**Harry Hardwick** died February 25, 2017 in Pinole at the age of 84.

Harry lived in the Point after his marriage to Sharon Imlach in 1950, his wife of 66 years. Harry retired as Captain of the Richmond Fire Department and served the city of Richmond for 25 years. Harry and his family were all active members of the Point Methodist Church before moving to the Odd Fellows Recreation Park near Guerneville, CA. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and Order of the Eastern Star. He had a happy word for everyone. Harry is survived by his five children Debbie, Don, Wendy, Sandy, and Sharry as well as 12 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren. Services were held at the Pinole Methodist Church.

**George R. Neel** passed away March 2, 2017 at the age 93.

He was born in Contra Costa, CA . In his early years, he was a champion water-skier taking home many trophies. He married 'Jackie' Alice Lee in 1946 and had three children. In 1959 he remarried to Mary Jo Bianchi and built their dream home in Point Richmond on the water with a boat dock for easy fishing trips. Hanging up his skies, his new passion was being an avid aviator going often to Tahoe, one of his wife's favorite places. He served as a ship welder in the U.S. Navy during World War II. An avid outdoorsman and fisherman, George was the first member of the Richmond Rod and Gun Club. A retired concrete, pump business owner of his company Flo-crete providing concrete for many large jobs including the TransBay BART tunnel and Candlestick Park. He is survived by his son Mike Neel, Fort Jones, CA., daughter Roberta Russo, South Lake Tahoe, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**Mary J. Swerdfeger** passed away November 23, 2016 at the age of 92.

Raised in Colorado, Mary and her husband came to Point Richmond in 1942. After 30 years, Mary retired from Chevron Chemical/Ortho Division and moved to Nevada. She is survived by her daughters Kay Castillo, Fritzie Amantite, Bobbie Lizarraga, Gretchen Stevens, and Mary Grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

**Velma Healy**, a resident of Mount Shasta, California, passed away of natural causes on December 4, 2016. She was 79 years old. She was born in Richmond, California on February 14, 1937. Welmas was raised and lived in Point Richmond all her life, until moving to Mount Shasta in 2003 to be closer to her family. Velma attended Richmond High School and UC Berkeley. She taught court stenography to San Francisco, California. Survivors include her children: Craig Healy, DDS, of Tiburon, California, Jim Healy of American Fork, Utah, and Mark Healy of Mount Shasta, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

# EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

Martha Bielawski - 94  
Grace Cerkanowicz - 94  
Muriel Clausen - 93  
John Knox - 92  
Mary Bianci Highfill - 93  
Tom Kenny - 92  
Loretta Johromi - 91 (month?)  
Billie Bonham Shaw - 95  
June Beesley Sosabal - 93  
Delphina Franco Tawney - 99  
Helen Wysham - 92

Jim Wilson - 92  
Alice Williamson - 92  
Madeline Bellando Albright 99  
Mid Dornan - 95  
Brenda McKinley - 90

Please send corrections and additions  
To [middornan@gmail.com](mailto:middornan@gmail.com) or call  
510-234-5334 and leave a message.

## CENTURY CLUB

Mark Gebhart - 101  
Shoney Gustafson - 101

(can anyone verify if these above are correct? If not, name will be deleted.)

### How World War I Changed Richmond

Commemorating the centennial of the  
US entering the war in April 1917  
March 11 thru June 30, 2017

Free Community Reception March 11, 2pm  
Members' Preview Friday, March 10, 4-6pm

#### Public Programs:

Karen English, April 8, 2pm, Poetry of World  
War I  
Susan Anderson, June 3, 2pm, World War I,  
Resistance and the New Negro in California

Richmond Museum of History  
40 Nevin Avenue, Richmond, CA 94802  
Open: 1 - 4pm Wednesday through Sunday  
Fees: Adults \$5 or Seniors/Students \$3,  
Children are FREE  
[www.richmondmuseum.org](http://www.richmondmuseum.org)

Made possible with the support of the ClaraBelle  
Hamilton Fund & the San Francisco Foundation

## Home Front Festival and ROSIE RALLY!

Bring your friends and family and be a part of history!

**AUGUST 12TH, 2017 10 AM - 4 PM**

*Let's set the Guinness World Record for Most  
People Dressed as Rosie the Riveter, Again!  
Enjoy food and 40's music in the park*

**10:00 am** - Rosie Rally check-in begins at the Craneway Pavilion.  
**11:00 am** - Arrive before 11am to be counted in the Guinness  
Record setting effort.  
**11:45 am** - Walking parade to the Home Front Festival  
**Noon-4pm** - Food and Live Entertainment at Lucretia Edwards pa  
**Rally - Craneway Pavillion, Ford Assembly Plant**  
1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond, CA 94804  
(next door to the National Park Visitor Center)  
**Festival - Lucretia Edwards Park**  
Lucretia Way at end of Marina Way South, Richmond, CA 94804

For more information and to RSVP, please go to [www.rosietheriveter.org](http://www.rosietheriveter.org)



# CALENDAR/DIRECTORY

## ARTS OF POINT RICHMOND

*Art is for everyone, the artist, the viewer, the Point is art.* Meets at 139 Washington Avenue. Contact: Irene Hightower, irene1328@comcast.net More info: <http://www.artsofpointrichmond.com/index.html>

## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

114 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond, 510-223-0487

## GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM AND EAST BAY MODEL ENGINEERS SOCIETY

900 Dornan Drive, Miller/Knox Regional Park. Sunday 12:00 to 5:00. Special openings on Saturdays and Holidays. 510-234-4884 for details.

## MANY HANDS PROJECT TO SUPPORT WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Contact, Margaret Morkowski, 510-234-4219

## MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE

The 2017 season has been cancelled.

Masquers will return to full production in 2018

## PARENTS, RESOURCES AND MORE (PRAM)

A volunteer, nonprofit organization serving families with children 5 or under. Playgroups, social events, educational opportunities, Information go to <http://www.PRAM.net> or call 510-215-1734.

## PARENT, TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Joanna Mina, Contact, 510-235-0157

## POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Contact: Andrew Butt, 510-236-7445

## POINT RICHMOND COMMUNITY CENTER

Info: 620-6905

## POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Museum is at 139½ Washington Avenue, and open Thursday's 11:30 to 2:00 and Saturday 11:30 to 2:00. See the editors notes on page 3 for next issue deadline. For information call President Mildred Dornan at 510-234-5334.

## POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Meets last Wednesday of each month, Point Richmond Community Center; 7:30 P.M.

Contact: Margaret Jordon at 510-412-3673

## POINT RICHMOND/WEST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY

Information call 510-620-6567

## RED OAK VICTORY SHIP

Open Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, 10am to 3 pm. \$10 Donation/Boarding fee.

Pancake Breakfasts one Sunday a month, April - June, August - October, \$9/adults, \$5/kids under 8 years.,

For more information call the ship at 510-237-2933 or the Richmond Museum of History at 510-235-7387 or visit [www.richmondmuseum.org](http://www.richmondmuseum.org)

## RICHMOND MUSEUM OF HISTORY

400 Nevin Avenue, Richmond. Open Wednesday-Sunday, 1:00 to 4:00 pm. For more information call 510-235-7387

## RICHMOND SWIMS

The Children and teens "Sail Fish" and Masters swim teams at the Richmond Plunge. Contact: Coach John Schonder, 510-504-0330 - September 25, 2011 open water bay swim raises money for coaching, equipment, pool fees and swimming scholarships for inner-city youth throughout Richmond. More info at <http://www.richmondswims.org/> or call 415-892-0771

## ROSIE THE RIVETER NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK VISITOR CENTER

1414 Harbour Way South, Oil House next to Ford Craneway.

For more information call 510-232-5050 or visit [www.nps.gov/rori](http://www.nps.gov/rori).

See page 22 for programs. GREAT movies all day

## WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Washington School at 565 Wine Street offers traditional and Spanish dual immersion curriculum, K - 6th grade. Contact principal Lisa Levi at 231-1417 for more information.

## WOMEN'S WESTSIDE IMPROVEMENT CLUB (established 1908)

Richmond's longest standing women's club. Contact: Linda Newton, President. (510) 235-0081

**Corrections? Email Gary Shows, [garyshows@gmail.com](mailto:garyshows@gmail.com)**

I would like to join the P.R.H.A.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership (check one):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Single	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior (65+)	15.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family	25.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Preserver	50.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Sponsor	75.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Maker	100.00

Membership in the Point Richmond History Association includes a one year subscription to "THIS POINT...in time" newsletter (five issues). Please make your check payable to the Point Richmond History Association and mail it to:

**Pam Wilson**  
**521 Western Drive**  
**Point Richmond, CA 94801**

If you would like to have birthdays noted in the newsletter, please include names and months.

Articles for each issue are due on or before the deadline printed in the calendar section.

Please mail articles and items of interest to:

**Gary Shows**

**229 Golden Gate Avenue**  
**Point Richmond, CA 94801**

or

**email: garyshows@gmail.com**

"This Point...in time" is a publication of the Point Richmond History Association, a non-profit organization at:  
 139 1/2 Washington Avenue  
 Point Richmond, CA 94801

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**Main Contributors to this Issue:**

Gary Shows	Editor/Uncredited Photos
Mid Dornan	Various Articles and Information
Don Church/Allan Smith	Historic Photos
Jerry Cerkanowicz	Various Information
Mark J. Kornmann	Proof
Pam Wilson	Membership Info
Jean Reynolds	Article
Dee Rosier	Article
Donna Roselius	Line Drawings/article
Muriel C. Clausen	Article
Margaret Jordan	Article/Photos
Caitlin Harvey	Article
Karen Buchanan	Information
Rosie the Riveter Park	Article
Karla and Klaudia Kobelt	Photos
Richmond Museum of History	Photo

**Contacts**

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 middornan@gmail.com

Visit our website

**PointRichmondHistory.org**

Join our Facebook Group  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/prhafan/>

Richmond Museum of History	510-235-7387
Red Oak Victory Information	510-235-7387
Rosie the Riveter Park	510-232-5050

*The Point Richmond History Association is registered with the IRS as a 501 (c) (3) organization. Contributions to the PRHA are deductible under section 170 of the code.*

**Point Richmond History Association**  
**139½ Washington Avenue**  
**Point Richmond, CA 94801**

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